(a) No, Sir. No such case has been reported by the Delhi Poljcte.

(b) Does not arise.

Talks between the Governments of Sri Lanka and India to Resolve Ethnic Crisis in Sri Lanka

250. SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some talks were held between the Government of India and the Government of Sri Lanka recently with a view to finding a solution to the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka; and

(b) if so, what are the details and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Government have been in continuous contact with the Government of Sri Lanka ;'nd have offered India's good offices to Sri Lanka to facilitate a solution to the ethnic problem. The President of Sri Lanka visited India from June 1—3, and had several meetings with the Prime Minister. Later on June 15)16 Mr. H. W Jayewardene led a Sri Lankan team of legal experts to Delhi and had talks with the Attor ney General of India on certain cons titutional and legal aspects of the Sri Lanka constitution.

(b) The Sri Lanka President and the Prime Minister discussed the ethnic problem. Both sides agreed on the need to defuse the situation and for all forms of violence to abate and. finally cease which would lead to the orealdon of a proper climate for progress towards a political settlement. It was also agreed that every effort would be made for speedy restoration of normalcy in the Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka to enable the return of Sri Lanka refugees *in* India *to* Sri Lanka.

Sino-Pak Collaboration in Nuclear Programmes

260. SHRI JASWANT SINGH; SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government <-' India are aware of the assistance provided by the People's Republic of China to Pakistan in their nuclear programme; and

(b) what diplomatic and other steps Government propose to take or have taken to counter this possible threat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b) There haveheen reports from time to time, pointing towards possible Chinese collaboration in Pakistan's efforts for developing nuclear weapons. While there has been no categorical denial by the Chinese Government of the different reports about Sino-Pak nuclear collaboration, the Chinese Premier had stated during his visit to the United States in January, 1984 that "we do not engage in any nuclear prolifere-tion ourselves, nor do we help other countries develop nuclear weapons". The Chinese Vice-Premier, Mr. Li Peng, also stated in January this year that China ha$_s$ no intention, at present or in the future of helping non-nuclear countries develop nuclear weapons. Stating that China's nuclesr cooperation with other countries is confined to peaceful purposes, Mr. Li added that China was cooperating or discussing cooperation in nuclear energy with France, the Federal Republic of Germany, the United States, Brazil, Pakistan and Japan.

Government keep under constant review all developments affecting the country's security.